

THE STATUTE LAWS OF CYPRUS
No. 25 of 1947

A LAW to make provisions as to the immunities, privileges and capacities of International organizations of which HIS MAJESTY'S Government in the United Kingdom and Foreign Governments are members and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid.

R. E. Turnbull,

24th November, 1947.

Officer Administering the Government.

BE it enacted by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Cyprus as follows: -

1. This Law may be cited as the Diplomatic Privileges (Extension) Law, 1947. Short Title.

Privileges,
immunities and
capacities of
certain inter-
national organ-
isations and
their staffs.

2. --(1) This section shall apply to any organization declared by an order of the Governor in Council to be an organization of which His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the government or governments of one or more foreign sovereign Powers are members.

(2) The Governor may by Order in Council --

(a) provide that any organization to which this section applies (hereinafter referred to as "the organization") shall, to such extent as may be specified in the Order, have the immunities and privileges set out in Part I of the Schedule to this law, and shall also have the legal capacities of a body corporate;

(b) confer upon such number of officers of the organization as may be specified in the Order, being the holders of such high offices in the organization as may be specified in the Order, and upon such persons employed on missions on behalf of the organization as may be specified, and upon any person who is the representative of a member government on the governing body or any committee of the organization, to such extent as may be so specified, the immunities and privileges set out in Part II of the Schedule to this Law;

Schedule
Part I.

Schedule
Part II.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

2. (Cont'd.)

Schedule
Part III.

- (c) confer upon such other classes of officers and servants of the organization as may be specified in the Order, to such extent as may be so specified, the immunities and privileges set out in Part III of the Schedule of this Law,

and Part IV of the Schedule to this Law shall have effect for the purpose of extending to the staffs or representatives of member governments and to the families of officers of the organization any immunities and privileges conferred on the representatives or officers under paragraph (b) of this sub-section, except in so far as the operation of the said Part IV is excluded by the Order conferring the immunities and privileges:

Provided that the Order in Council shall not confer any immunity or privilege upon any person as the representative of his Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom or as a member of the staff of such a representative.

(3) Where immunities and privileges are conferred on any persons by an Order in Council and made under the last foregoing sub-section, the Governor--

- (a) shall compile a list of the persons entitled to immunities and privileges conferred under paragraph (b) of that sub-section, and may compile a list of the persons entitled to immunities and privileges conferred under paragraph (c) of that sub-section;
- (b) Shall cause any list compiled under this sub-section to be published in the Gazette; and
- (c) whenever any person ceases or begins to be entitled to the immunities and privileges to which any such list relates, shall amend the list and cause a notice of the amendment, or, if he thinks fit, an amended list, to be published as aforesaid.

(4) Every list or notice published under the last foregoing sub-section shall state the date from which the list or amendment takes or took effect; and the fact that any person is or was included or not included at any time among the persons entitled to the immunities and privileges in question may, if a list of those persons has been so published, be conclusively proved by producing the Gazette containing the list, or, as the case may be, the last list taking effect before that time, together with the gazettes

-5-

(4). (Cont'd.)

(if any) containing notices of the amendments taking effect before that time, and by showing that the name of that person is or was at that time included or not included in the said list.

3.--(1) Where a conference is held in Cyprus and is attended by the representatives of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government or governments of one or more foreign sovereign Powers, and it appears to the Governor that doubts may arise as to the extent to which the representatives of such foreign Powers and members of their official staffs are entitled to diplomatic immunities, he may--

Diplomatic immunities of representatives attending international conferences.

(a) compile a list of the persons aforesaid who are entitled to such immunities, and cause that list to be published in the Gazette; and

(b) whenever it appears to the Governor that any persons ceases or begins to be entitled to such immunities, amend the list and cause a notice of amendment or, if he thinks fit, an amended list, to be published as aforesaid;

and every representative of a foreign Power who is for the time being included in the list shall, for the purpose of any law and rule of law or custom relating to the immunities of an envoy of a foreign Power accredited to His Majesty, and of the retinue of such an envoy, be treated as if he were such an envoy, and such of the members of his official staff as are for the time being included in the list shall be treated for the purpose aforesaid as if they were his retinue.

(2) Every list or notice published under the last foregoing sub-section in relation to any conference shall include a statement of the date from which the list or amendment takes or took effect; and the fact that any person is or was included or not included at any time among the persons entitled to diplomatic immunities as representatives attending the conference or as members of the official staff of any such representative may, if a list of those persons has been so published, be conclusively proved by producing the Gazette containing the list or, as the case may be, the last list taking effect before that time, together with the Gazette (if any) containing notices of the amendments taking effect before that time, and by showing that the name of that person is or was at that time included or not included in the said list.

-4-

Application to
United Nations

4. This Law shall, in its application to the United Nations, have effect subject to the following modifications:--

- (a) any reference to the governing body or any committee of the organisation shall be construed as referring to the General Assembly or any council or other organ of the United Nations; and
- (b) the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 2 of this Law shall include power by Order in Council to confer on the judges and registers of the International Court and on suitors to that Court and their agents, counsel and advocates, such immunities, privileges and facilities as may be required to give effect to any resolution of, or convention approved by, the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Reciprocal
treatment.

5. Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this Law shall be construed as precluding the Governor in Council from declining to accord immunities or privileges to, or from withdrawing immunities or privileges from, nationals or representatives of any Power on the ground that that Power is failing to accord corresponding immunities or privileges to British nationals or representatives.

S c h e d u l e

PART I.

Immunities and privileges of the organisation.

1. Immunity from suit and legal process.

2. The like inviolability of official archives and premises occupies as offices as is accorded in respect of the official archives and premises of an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to His Majesty.

3. The like exemption or relief from taxes and rates, other than taxes on the importation of goods, as may be accorded to a foreign sovereign Power.

4. Exemption from taxes on the importation of goods directly imported by the organisation for its official use in the Colony or for exportation, or on the importation of any publications of the organisation directly imported by it, such exemption to be subject to compliance with such conditions as any law relating to Customs and Excise may prescribe for the protection of the Revenue.

-4-

Schedule Part I (Cont'd).

5. Exemption from prohibitions and restrictions on importation or exportation in the case of goods directly imported or exported by the organization for its official use and in the case of any publications of the organization directly imported or exported by it.

6. The right to avail itself, for telegraphic communications sent by it and containing only matter intended for publication by the press or for broadcasting (including communications addressed to, or dispatched from, places outside the Colony), of any reduced rates applicable for the corresponding service in the case of press telegrams.

PART II.

Immunities and privileges of high officers, persons on missions and government representatives.

1. The like immunity from suit and legal process as is accorded to an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to His Majesty.

2. The like inviolability of residence as is accorded to such an envoy.

3. The like exemption or relief from taxes as is accorded to such an envoy.

PART III.

Immunities and privileges of other officers and servants.

1. Immunity from suit and legal process in respect of things done or omitted to be done in the course of the performance of official duties.

2. Exemption from income tax in respect of emoluments received as an officer or servant of the organization.

- 6 -

Schedule (Cont'd.)

PART IV.

Immunities and privileges of representative's staff
and of high officer's family.

1. Where any person is entitled to any such immunities and privileges as are mentioned in Part II of this Schedule as the representative of a member government, his official staff accompanying him as such a representative shall also be entitled to those immunities and privileges to the same extent as the retinue of an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to His Majesty is entitled to the immunities and privileges accorded to the envoy.

2. Where any person is entitled to any such immunities and privileges as are mentioned in Part II of this Schedule as an officer of the organisation, that person's wife or husband and children under the age of twenty-one shall also be entitled to those immunities and privileges to the same extent as the wife or husband and children of an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to His Majesty are entitled to the immunities and privileges accorded to the envoy.

- - - - -

24th November, 1947.

H. G. RICHARDS,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Printed by the Government Printer,
Nicosia, Cyprus